THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) Yes Sir. This Ministry had taken up the matter regarding restoration of Central Excise Rebate for the deep Sea Fishing Industry with the Finance Ministry. However, the Finance Ministry had not agreed to the same.

(c) Does not arise.

**Proposals for Deep-sea fishing Industry for 1993-94**

2770. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any specific proposals for the 1994-95 to revive the deep-sea fishing industry; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The rehabilitation package announced in 1991-92 and revised in 1992-93 is applicable for 1993-94 and 1994-95. The Government is also providing assistance to the deep sea fishing sector in the form of subsidies as well as developmental incentives. The Government has also constituted a Technical Committee to recommend means for revival of sick deep sea fishing units. This Committee has not submitted its report.

**Clearance of cases of entrepreneurs involved in deep sea fishing**

2771. SHRI S. AUSTIN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that entrepreneurs from Southern States involved in deep-sea fishing have to come frequently to Delhi for clearances, etc. for their joint ventures and other permissions;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to streamline the administration; and

(c) what is the average delay in this matter of giving responses and clearances by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) to (c) While no fixed time frame has been stipulated for clearance of Joint ventures and other permissions, applications complete in all respects are disposed of expeditiously. The proposals for joint ventures etc. are considered on merit in terms of deep sea fishing Policy and personal visits of the entrepreneurs to Delhi for clearances etc. are not necessary.

**Participation of SCICI in Murari Committee**

*2772. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the S.C.I.C.I. was represented on the Murari Committee set up by the Minister of Food Processing Industries to study ways of reviving the sick deep-sea fishing industry;

(b) if so, what were the suggestions and participation of S.C.I.C.I. in the Committee meetings; and

(c) what are the reasons for taking adverse stand towards small and individual operations in the deep-sea fishing sector by S.C.I.C.I.?

*Previously Unstarred Question transferred from 21.12.93.

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Like other members of the Committee, the representative of SCICI has also suggested some steps for the revival of the deep sea fishing industry. However, these, and suggestions by other members, are required to be considered by the Committee as a whole and a composite view taken.

(c) Does not arise.

**Processing of foodgrains in the surplus States**

2773. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government would allow processing of foodgrains in the surplus States which can facilitate more value addition in the farmers' surplus products such as Vitamin E DDG, plastics industrial alcohol, Chemicals etc. extracted from wheat in Punjab;

(b) whether processing of Sugarcane to industrial alcohol directly by the farmers for use as an alternative fuel to petrol and other chemicals could be allowed; and

(c) whether Government would remove restrictions on the import of efficient rice-shellers and allow them to process their paddy to rice for more value addition?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) Yes Sir it is allowed, subject to rules and regulations in force.

(b) The manufacture of industrial alcohol is delicensed.

(c) Import of rice-shellers is governed by the import-export policy of the Government of India.

**Expansion of Food Processing Industries**

2774. SHRI S.S. AHLUWALIA: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that food processing industries is likely to get a boost in the near future in the country after the entry of multinational companies therein;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have done any survey for the expansion of food processing industries in the State of Bihar;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(e) what is the future of food processing industry in the State of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI TARUN GOGOI): (a) and (b) The entry of foreign companies in the food processing sector in India are expected to bring in addendent benefits of induction of modern technologies, modern managerial expertise market expansion both domestic and foreign, investment into this sector and consequent employment generation, exports, etc.

(c) to (e) While no State specific assessment of investment required for encouraging food processing industry have been made by this Ministry, under its Plan schemes, financial assistance is provided to State Government organisations/academic bodies for conducting studies to assess the potential investment required for development of food processing industries in various States/regions. One such proposal for assistance received from Bihar in this regard has been recently approved. With available raw-material resource base, there appears to be scope for